



## Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

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**Person ID:** 94286008

**County of Child's Residence:** HARRIS

**Gender:** Female

**Age:** 2 Year(s) 8 Month(s)

**Date of Death:** 09/05/2018

On the date of the fatality, the child was not in DFPS conservatorship and was living with the child's parent, a managing conservator, a legal guardian or other person entitled to the child's possession.

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**Child's Name:** Mccowan,Kaliyah I

**Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:**

**Intake Date(s):** 09/05/2018

**Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:**

The agency received a report stating that the deceased child was found unresponsive in her room in the family's apartment. The report stated that the deceased child and her one year old sibling were transported to the hospital. The report stated that the one year old sibling had extensive bruising and burns to her body. The deceased child had extensive bruising on her body. The children were transported to the hospital where the deceased child died upon arrival. The report stated per medical staff, if the one year old sibling had not been brought to the hospital with the deceased child, she would have died also.

**Investigation Findings:**

The deceased child's mother and her paramour were the last two caregivers for both the deceased child and her one year old sibling. Both denied causing the injuries found on the deceased child and the sibling or knowing where the injuries came from. Both later claimed the children's bruises were from day care. The children arrived at day care with various bruises for which the mother had various explanations. The mother made a reference to the children being in day care all the time and on the morning of the death, the children did not go to the day care and stayed with the paramour for a few hours while the mother went to work as a bus driver. An intake was called into Child Care Licensing after the mother made allegations about the children coming home with bruises. The allegations regarding the day care were not confirmed. The mother said the children were alive and unharmed when she left for work at 6:00 am. The mother's paramour said the children were sleeping until the youngest child began yelling. The paramour said he waited 20 minutes before checking on the children. He said that he checked on the children and the deceased child was not responsive. He later said that he had been lying in bed, had an accident and soiled himself, and then went to take a shower. He said he was in the shower when the mother arrived home. The mother said she arrived home at a little after 8:00 am and found the deceased child unresponsive. The children were taken by car to the front gate of the apartment complex at 11:00 am. No accounting was made of the three hour gap in the stories.

During the autopsy, the deceased child was found with 28 contusions and abrasions to the head and 39 contusions and abrasions to the torso which were all in various stages of healing. The cause of death is listed as multiple blunt force injuries and the manner of death is homicide. The one year old sibling was found to have non-accidental injuries including rib fractures, a skull fracture, liver laceration and a right renal contusion.

According to law enforcement, both the mother and her paramour were arrested. The paramour was charged with murder and the mother was charged with injury to a child-serious bodily injury. Law Enforcement fingerprinted the paramour and it was found that he was using an alias and had warrants out of Mississippi and Louisiana for various aggravated robberies and aggravated theft. The paramour had been residing in the mother's apartment for about 3-4 months after he came from Mississippi in order to escape arrest.

The agency requested and was granted custody of the one year old sibling.

The allegation of physical abuse of the deceased child and the child's sibling were confirmed. According to the final autopsy, the child died from 28 contusions and abrasions to the head and 39 contusions and abrasions to the torso; which were all in various stages of healing. The sibling had similar bruising including rib fractures, a skull fracture, liver laceration and a right renal contusion. The deceased child's mother and paramour who were the last two caregivers for both the deceased child and her one year old sibling both denied causing the injuries found on the deceased child and the sibling or knowing where the injuries came from.

09/06/2018 SDM Safety Assessment: Initial - Safe with plan  
09/10/2018 SDM Safety Assessment: Reassessment - Unsafe  
09/19/2018 SDM Risk Assessment: High  
Case Action:  
Removal/Subcare  
**Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:**

**Case Action:****Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:****Other Services:**

Drug or alcohol abuse testing or treatment; Counseling and Evaluation

**Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:**

An intake was called into Child Care Licensing since mom made allegations about the children coming home from day care with bruises. The allegations were not confirmed.

**If one or more children were previously removed from the home, for each conservatorship episode, summarize dates of conservatorship and type of placement at the end of conservatorship:**

NA

**Other Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:**

**Intake Date(s):** 02/07/2018

**Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:**

The agency received a report stating the deceased child's mother went to the child's paternal grandparent's home and pushed the grandfather down. The report stated that the deceased child and the sibling were with the mother when she went to the home. The report stated that the sibling was left in the car. The report stated that law enforcement was contacted and responded to the scene. The report stated that the mother alleged that the paternal grandparents use drugs. The report stated that the mother threatened to kill the paternal grandparents. The report stated that the mother hangs out with gang members. The report stated that the father was at work when the incident occurred.

**Investigation Findings:**

The deceased child's mother denied the allegations and reported she did go to the paternal grandparent's house and the great grandfather cussed at her. The mother denied that she pushed the great grandfather down. The mother did admit to have a mental illness and was on medication until age 16 when she discontinued it. The investigator observed the deceased child and the sibling and no concerns were noted. Day care staff were contacted and no concerns were noted. The investigator spoke with the deceased child's paternal grandmother who reported that the mother did push the grandfather down but he was not injured. The home environment was observed and there were no concerns noted. Collaterals had no concerns. A companion case was called into Adult Protective Services against the mother for physical abuse and emotional/verbal abuse of the paternal great grandfather. Those APS allegations were not confirmed.

The allegations of neglectful supervision of the deceased child and the sibling by the child's mother were not confirmed. The deceased child's mother denied the allegations and reported she did go to the paternal grandparent's house and the great grandfather cussed at her. The mother denied that she pushed the great grandfather down. The investigator spoke with the deceased child's paternal grandmother who reported that the mother did push the grandfather down but he was not injured.

**Safety and Risk Factors**

02/10/2018 SDM Safety Assessment: Initial Safe

03/23/2018 SDM Risk Assessment-Moderate

**Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:**

Risk Assessment: 02/10/2018 SDM Safety Assessment: Initial Safe

03/23/2018 SDM Risk Assessment-Moderate

**Case Action:**

Close

**Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:**

Caseworker discussed "Keeping Children Safe" pamphlet with the mother.

**Other Services:**

Community resources

**Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:**

A companion case was called into Adult Protective Services against the mother for physical abuse and emotional/verbal abuse of the paternal great grandfather. The allegations were not confirmed.

Note: This report was prepared on 07/15/2019 and does not include corrections or updates, if any, that may be subsequently made to DFPS data on or after the date this report was prepared.